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Foreword

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FOREWORD

International trade is one of the most important factors in economic development for every country, developed or developing. To promote international trade, it is necessary to study the legal forms of international trade, their possible simplification, harmonization and unification. In response to these needs, on December 17, 1966, the United Nations General Assembly established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) to promote "the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade."

Despite the growing concern with the law relating to international trade at the international level, few, if any, of the professional journals in the United States have elevated themselves to this subject. The publication of the *International Trade Law Journal* by the University of Maryland School of Law is an effort to fill the gap in this area of law. The new *Journal* will not only cover those conventional technical topics of international trade law such as sales of goods, carriage of goods by sea and air, industrial property, copyright, and international commercial arbitration, but will also cover trade policy, such as most-favored-nation treatment, oil prices, and seabed resource problems. The publication policy of this journal is to present a balancing of views on various topics of international trade law. It will try, in so far as possible, to publish views of scholars from Western and non-Western countries, especially the Third World Countries. We believe that by taking a broader coverage of the subject and a balanced publication policy, the *Journal* will render a useful service to its readers all over the world.

Baltimore, Md.

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